

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 18625

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, PARM, UN, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET VIEWS ON MBFR, UN QUESTIONS

REF: MOSCOW 18498

1. SUMMARY. DURING POLITICAL COUNSELOR'S CALL ON DEPUTY CHIEF LOZINSKIY OF THE MFA'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIVISION (REFTEL), LOZINSKIY INDICATED THAT THE SOVIETS SEE NO EARLY RESOLUTION OF MBFR PROBLEMS. IN PARTICULAR, HE OPPOSED THE SEPARATION OF U.S.-SOVIET FORCE REDUCTIONS FROM THOSE OF THEIR ALLIES. ON UN ISSUES, HE REGRETTED U.S. "MODESTY" IN OPPOSING CHARTER REVIEW AND THE UN SALARY INCREASE, AND STRONGLY ENDORSED CLOSER UN CONSULTATIONS IN BOTH CAPITALS AS WELL AS IN NEW YORK. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING OUR PRESENTATION ON THE QUESTION OF A REPLACEMENT FOR THE UNSYG'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO CCD (REFTEL), WE
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DISCUSSED WITH LOZINSKIY -- WHO DEALS WITH UN AND CERTAIN OTHER

MULTILATERAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS -- SEVERAL MATTERS IN HIS JURISDICTION. ON MBFR, HE SAID THAT "VERY SUBSTANTIAL PROBLEMS" REMAIN AND HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT AN EARLY SOLUTION. HE SAID THAT THE SOVIETS HAD TRIED TO MOVE TOWARD THE WESTERN POSITION, BUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN LITTLE PROGRESS. THE CENTRAL ISSUE, HE SAID, WAS THE WESTERN ATTEMPT TO SEPARATE THE REDUCTION OF U.S. AND SOVIET TROOPS FROM THAT OF THEIR ALLIES. "WE THINK THAT WESTERN EUROPEAN TROOPS SHOULD NOT BE EXCLUDED," HE SAID. THE SOVIETS HAD MADE A SERIOUS EFFORT TO ACCOMMODATE THE WESTERN POSITION BY PROPOSING STAGED REDUCTIONS: THE U.S. AND THE USSR TO BEGIN FIRST AND THE OTHERS WITHIN THE YEAR. THE SOVIET SIDE FELT THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO SPECIFY AT LEAST SOME SCHEDULE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE OTHER FORCES.

3. ON UN MATTERS, LOZINSKIY SAID THAT THE SOVIETS WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE U.S. HAD NOT BEEN AS ACTIVE AS IT COULD HAVE BEEN IN OPPOSING CHARTER REVIEW. HE FELT THAT IF THE U.S. HAD JOINED THE OTHER SUPPORTERS OF THE FRENCH SPONSORED JOINT STATEMENT ON NONPARTICIPATION, THE EFFECT WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH STRONGER. ON THE PROPOSED UN SALARY INCREASE, HE SAID THAT THE U.S. HAD AGAIN BEEN "TOO MODEST" IN ITS OPPOSITION. NEVERTHELESS, LOZINSKIY SAID HE FELT THAT THE INCREASE WOULD NOT BE GRANTED THIS YEAR BECAUSE FEW COUNTRIES FAVORED IT.

4. COMMENTING ON THE 29TH UNGA AS A WHOLE, LOZINSKIY SAID THAT THE U.S. MAY HAVE GROUNDS FOR THE NEGATIVE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY AMBASSADOR SCALI. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE FACT THAT THE U.S. FOUND ITSELF ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF LARGE MAJORITIES WAS NOT SOLELY THE FAULT OF THOSE MAJORITIES. SOME OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES, HE SAID, WERE MUCH CLOSER TO THE MAJORITY VIEWS. IN ANY CASE, HE CONTINUED, THE SOVIETS ALSO HAVE PROBLEMS, AND HE LISTED CHARTER REVIEW, KOREA AND SOME DISARMAMENT ISSUES AS MATTERS WHICH DID NOT GO AS MOSCOW WISHED.

5. LOZINSKIY WELCOMED THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THESE QUESTIONS AND STRONGLY ENDORSED THE DESIRABILITY OF BROADER CONSULTATIONS IN MOSCOW ON UN MATTERS. HE SAID THAT DIRECTOR ISRAELYAN AGREED COMPLETELY, AS DID OTHER SENIOR MFA OFFICIALS SUCH AS AMBASSADOR TIMERBAYEV. CONSULTATIONS IN BOTH CAPITALS, SAID LOZINSKIY, ARE A VALUABLE SUPPLEMENT TO THE REGULAR EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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MISSIONS IN NEW YORK AND SHOULD BE RESORTED TO MUCH MORE EXTENSIVELY.

6. COMMENT: ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS SOVIET OFFICIALS WHO HANDLE UN AFFAIRS HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY WOULD WELCOME MORE CONSULTATIONS HERE IN MOSCOW FOR NUMBER OF REASONS, NOT LEAST OF WHICH WOULD BE THAT IT WOULD PROVIDE THEM WITH A HANDLE FOR DEALING WITH MALIK.

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